

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service P.O. Box 96456 Washington, DC 20090-6456 Poultry Programs

July 6, 2000

COMMODITY SPECIFICATION FOR COMMERCIAL PACK GEESE DATED MAY 2000

Amendment No. 2

This amendment adds requirements for geese of current production and removes requirements for geese from frozen inventory.

- 1. Page 1, Section II.A.1., is revised to read as follows:
- "1. <u>Date Processed</u>. The commodity must not be processed and packaged more than 30 calendar days prior to the date of the contract."
- 2. Page 2, Section II.A.6., is revised to read as follows:
- "6. Organoleptic Requirements. The chilled young geese will be examined on a continuous basis for the following organoleptic requirements: Chilled young geese must be free of rancidity; free of fruity, sulfide-like, cardboardy, tallowy, oily, oxidized, metallic, chlorine, or other foreign or off-odors; free of foreign materials (e.g., glass, paper, rubber, metal); must show no evidence of mishandling or deterioration; and must have a bright color with no evidence of dehydration or freezing and thawing. Any goose that does not comply with the organoleptic requirements will be rejected for use under this Specification."
- 3. Page 2, Section II.B.1., is revised to read as follows:
- "1. Type. The commodity must be from current production, processed, officially graded, properly identified, packaged, and frozen not more than 30 calendar days prior to the date of contract."
- 4. Page 3, Section II.B.7.a., is revised by adding the words "Chilled or" in the first sentence before "Frozen geese may be transferred"

5. Page 3, Section II.C., is revised by changing "C. <u>Packaging and Packing</u>" to "D" and adding a new "C" to read as follows:

"C. Chilling and Freezing

Geese must be chilled in accordance with 9 CFR. § 381.66(b). The chilled geese must be processed, packaged and packed, and placed in a freezer within 7 calendar days after the day the geese are slaughtered. Within this 7-day timeframe, the commodity must be placed in a freezer within 48 hours of packaging and packing. If the chilled geese are not placed in a freezer immediately after packaging, the geese must be held at a room temperature not higher than 36 °F (2.2 °C) and not lower than 26 °F (-3.3 °C). The packaged geese must be frozen in accordance with 9 CFR part 381 (internal product temperature lowered to 0 °F (-17.8 °C) or lower within 72 hours from the time of entering the freezer). When packaged geese are held at a room temperature below 26 °F (-3.3 °C), they will be considered to be in a freezer and subject to the 72-hour freezing requirement which begins at the end of the shift the geese enter the 26 °F (-3.3 °C) or lower facility."

- 6. Page 6, Section IV.B., is revised by inserting the following after Section IV.B.2.
- "3. Optional Temperature Verification. As an option to verifying internal commodity temperature of frozen commodities at time of shipment, the contractor may request an alternate method utilizing commodity temperature-sensing devices. If this option is selected, a Federal-State supervisor, Grading Branch, Poultry Programs, will determine that the facilities, equipment, procedures, and the contractors' level of freezing compliance are in accordance with the established guidelines outlined in the applicable Poultry Programs' instructions for this Specification."

EFFECTIVE DATE: This amendment is effective with offers due by 12 p.m., Central Time, Monday, July 17, 2000, and on all subsequent offers. The words "and Amendment Nos. 1 and 2" must be inserted after "the Commodity Specification dated May 2000" in item 1 of each offer.

D. Michael Holbrook

Deputy Administrator